Daily Report

Latin America

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Central American Presidents Sign Agreement To Strengthen Unity

PA2304000893 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1933 GMT 22 Apr 93

["Text" of Managua Agreement issued by Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro, Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani, Honduran President Rafael Callejas, and Guatemalan President Jorge Serrano in Managua—live]

[Text] Managua Agreement:

The presidents of the Republics of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua meeting in Managua, Nicaragua, convinced that it is necessary to consolidate and expand the existing economic cooperation among the four countries and to contribute to the economic development of their respective peoples to improve the living conditions of its inhabitants;

Whereas the Central American presidents have reiterated in their summit meetings their willingness to continue to support the integration process to strengthen the region as an economic bloc and successfully bring it into the world economy, thereby taking the necessary steps to promote responsibly our own growth and efficient associates in our cooperation;

Bearing in mind that on 12 May 1992, the presidents of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras signed the Nueva Ocotepeque Agreement on trade and investment, in which they decided to move quicker toward higher stages of cooperation, agree to:

1. Work together to strengthen Central American institutionality and achieve political and economic unity among the four republics.

2. Improve the free trade zone among their respective countries and sign an agreement on customs matters as a preliminary step to achieve economic unity. In this regard they decide to:

a. Ratify their commitment to admit in their respective countries, in a free trade regimen, the merchandise for which such a treatment is accorded by Article 3 of the Central American Economic Integration Treaty. The products that are subject to special temporary regimens included in Annex A of such treaty will be analyzed by a multilateral commission, which must carry out the relevant actions to draft a free trade program for each product.
b. Conduct the necessary studies to eliminate all those nontariff barriers and other measures that can obstruct free trade among our territories.
c. Modernize the legal protection framework for copyrights and mechanisms for recording industrial copyrights.
d. Promote an efficient and honest price policy in each country.

3. Attain customs unity and economic unity among the four countries in the shortest time possible. To accomplish this, the presidents will adopt the following measures, among others:

a. Unify common external tariffs for the import of all merchandise included on the tariff list.
b. Determine the rules for a common customs administration.
c. Conduct the necessary studies to make the respective macroeconomic policies compatible.
d. Facilitate and accelerate customs and immigration services, as well as promote the improvement of border posts.
e. Allow free movement of peoples among the respective territories by immediately lifting visa requirements among the four countries.

4. Develop in a coordinated manner programs of physical infrastructure in support of the countries' economic activities and maintain close coordination in developing and exploiting tourism.

5. Ask the Central Banks of the respective countries to conduct actions to promote the free movement of capital, increase the flow of financial resources, and integrate capital markets. Other measures include:

a. The establishment and operation of branches and subsidiaries of financial institutions in the territories of the respective countries.
b. The necessary coordination for the integration of stock exchanges.
c. The revision of financial regulations and fiscal instruments to make them compatible.
d. The payment of trade transactions with respective currencies, the U.S. dollar, or any other forms of payment agreed upon by the monetary authorities of the countries.

6. Ratify the agreements reached at the presidential summits by giving Nicaragua temporary preferential treatment in the area of trade and exceptional treatment in the financial and debt fields to promote efficiently its reconstruction, rehabilitation, and the strengthening of its productive capabilities.

7. Adopt a common policy to promote investments with the following requirements:

a. To draft a strategy to attract foreign investments that can identify the different comparative advantages of each country, bearing in mind complementary aspects to improve the efficiency of productive activities.
b. To establish adequate financial mechanisms and operational procedures to increase the volume of financial resources destined for productive sectors.
c. To give national treatment to the investments of companies and private individuals of the other states, as well as to maintain the free convertibility of the respective currencies. No discriminatory exchange restrictions will be established and mechanisms will be created that

can ensure the stability and safety of investments of the nationals of each one of the countries.

8. Maintain joint regional positions in foreign trade negotiations to strengthen our negotiating capabilities. In cases in which, for special circumstances, individual negotiations are already taking place, necessary coordination must be maintained to obtain the biggest possible advantage.

9. Achieve the implementation of this agreement by asking the economy ministers to coordinate and implement the actions established in No. 2 and 3. For treating specific matters, special commissions may be created with the participation of private sectors.

10. Call upon the Costa Rican and Panamanian Governments to join the actions taken in the present agreement, which constitutes substantial progress in the efforts for the reorganization and strengthening of the integration process.

11. Reaffirm the Nuevo Ocotepeque Agreements among the countries and the need to continue making progress in the different areas.

[Issued] Managua, Republic of Nicaragua, 22 April 1993
[Issued] Alfredo Felix Cristiani Burkard, president of the Republic of El Salvador; Jorge Antonio Serrano Elias, president of the Republic of Guatemala; Rafael Leonardo Callejas Romero, president of the Republic of Honduras; Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, president of the Republic of Nicaragua.

Issue Joint Statement on Coffee

PA2204231593 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1933 GMT 22 Apr 93

["Text" of Joint Statement on Coffee issued by Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro, Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani, Guatemalan President Jorge Serrano, and Honduran President Rafael Leonardo Callejas in Managua—live]

[Text] Joint Statement on Coffee:

The presidents of the Republics of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua whereas:

1. The economies of the Central American countries are significantly dependent on their coffee revenues, which are very important to attain social and economic stability in each one of our countries;

2. The Central American countries have suffered a severe economic deterioration since the quota system was suspended in June 1989;

3. During the past four years, the Central American countries, with other coffee-producing countries, have committed all their efforts to attaining a new agreement based on the firm conviction that international cooperation on coffee has been successful for the past 30 years;

4. The negotiations for a new international coffee agreement ended unsuccessfully on 31 March 1993, despite all efforts to reach an agreement that would allow us to confront effectively such a difficult situation;

Therefore, we declare our willingness to:

1. Promote and coordinate efforts to find mechanisms that will balance supply and demand and that will allow us to attain an ordered and stable market that will be profitable and equitable for all the coffee-producing countries. To this end, we have instructed the pertinent authorities to arrange a Central American meeting to discuss the coffee issue to be held no later than 10 days from now.

2. We call on all the other coffee-producing countries in the world to give us their cooperation and solidarity and to adhere to our efforts so we may to reach our objectives.

Note: This joint statement will be sent to Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier, president of the Republic of Costa Rica, at a later date, for his approval and signature.

[Issued] 22 April 1993.
[Signed] Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier, president of the Republic of Costa Rica [as heard]; Alfredo Cristiani Burkard, president of the Republic of El Salvador; Jorge Antonio Serrano Elias, president of the Republic of Guatemala; Rafael Leonardo Callejas Romero, president of the Republic of Honduras; Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, president of the Republic of Nicaragua.

Issue 'Declaration of Nicaragua'

PA2204230093 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1933 GMT 22 Apr 93

["Text" of the Declaration of Nicaragua by Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro, Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani, Guatemalan President Jorge Serrano, and Honduran President Rafael Leonardo Callejas in Managua—live]

[Text] Declaration of Nicaragua:

The presidents of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua meeting in Managua, Republic of Nicaragua, and noting that the Central American states constitute a single community and that the desire to attain the political unity of Central America is a task we must conclude this century as a mandate stemming from the common origin of our peoples; our geographical location; our close human, social, and cultural links; and as a way of dealing with the challenges of the new international order;

Noting that the Declaration of Guatemala signed by the presidents of El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala on 30 October 1992 embraces the aspirations of millions of Central Americans, who are committed to restoring regional unity to constitute a greater entity that can allow

for the creation of better conditions to forge a destiny of peace, freedom, and development that our people deserve;

Bearing in mind that the Declaration of Guatemala established mechanisms of representation aimed at promoting debate and discussion with the purpose of laying the groundwork for regional political unity declares:

1. Their unyielding commitment to work together to consolidate the political integration of Central America, giving full participation to all social sectors so that the end product can be the pluralistic and democratic expression of the peoples of the region.

2. The Nicaraguan Government will immediately create a national commission of wide representation aimed at coordinating actions with the other commissions created by the Declaration of Guatemala so as to promote this desire to build a single fatherland in the region.

[Issued] Managua, Republic of Nicaragua, 22 April 1993 [Signed] Alfredo Felix Cristiani Burkard, president of the Republic of El Salvador; Jorge Antonio Serrano Elias, president of the Republic of Guatemala; Rafael Leonardo Callejas, president of the Republic of Honduras; and Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, president of the Republic of Nicaragua.

Hold News Conference

PA2304015193 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 2025 GMT 22 Apr 93

[News conference by Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro, Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani, Guatemalan President Jorge Serrano Elias, and Honduran President Rafael Leonardo Callejas with an unidentified moderator and Central American reporters at the Presidential Building in Managua—live]

[Text] [Unidentified reporter, in progress] [words indistinct] integrated to this process in a normal fashion. The Group of Four is quickly moving along the process of integration. What is the main reason why....[pauses] Are you going to make an effort so Costa Rica will join? The Central American Parliament has already been operating and it has not joined that either. What will the Group of Four do in the economic field?

[Callejas] Costa Rica has joined the economic integration process. It has freely decided that the actions dealing with the freedom of movement of people and the political issues are not convenient at this time. We respect the sovereign decision of the Costa Rican Government and we hope that in time it will adopt actions similar to the ones we have promoted. It is very important that the Costa Ricans, as primary partners of economic integration, continue to make efforts in the economic field.

[Reporter] I have two questions. Regarding the liberation of visas, there is already an agreement between Nicaragua and Honduras that has been in effect since 1 February 1993 that declared payments for visas would not be required. Nonetheless, there have been many protests, particularly from Nicaraguan drivers going through Honduras who have to make several payments. This somewhat affects the Nicaraguan economy. What type of measures will Mr. Callejas' administration adopt to prevent the collection of payments? The other question is what will be the name of the new bloc Nicaragua is joining?

[Callejas] Based on what was agreed here, visas for citizens from the four countries that form part of this agreement have been fully liberated.

We have discussed what this group might be called and it will possibly be called Central American [C.A.] Group 4 [Grupo C.A. Cuatro]. The group could later become C.A. 5, C.A. 6.

[Moderator] Rodolfo Vivas now has the floor.

[Vivas] Good afternoon. I have a question for the Guatemalan president. We have spoken recently in Nicaragua about a dialogue and you have been so kind as to converse with several groups in the country to make some suggestions. We would like to know what is the status of the dialogue in your country with the guerrillas? What are the most evident obstacles that prevent ending the tragedy between the Indians and the Guatemalan Army?

I also want to ask the Honduran president about the problem.... [pauses] What is regulating the permanence of the military commands in his country? Bearing in mind the withdrawal of Gustavo Alvarez Martinez many years ago, how many years do the military commanders remain at their posts?

[Serrano] In the first place, I would like to comment on the issue of dialogue. Guatemala is a country that has unfortunately maintained—and against the will of the Guatemalans—an armed confrontation for 33 years. This is the oldest armed confrontation in Latin America. In all sincerity, I can tell you that the people of Guatemala do not want that confrontation. I can also assure you that neither the Government of the Republic of Guatemala, nor the Guatemalan Army, want that confrontation.

We want to end it as soon as possible. Three years ago, we signed the Oslo Agreements, which began a process of negotiations in Guatemala. This process reached several impasses early in 1993, which were almost broken by the great flexibility displayed by my government when it accepted several additional conditions imposed by the rebels.

I can say that we have reached substantive agreements that encompass the Human Rights Agreement, which the government had already agreed to sign over one year ago. We accepted its verification and implementation as of 14 January 1993.

The guerrillas made additional demands, however, that hampered the negotiations. We are also negotiating with

parallel tables a schedule that can lead us to a definite or target date for a cease-fire and the end of the conflict, which we hope can be accomplished during 1993. We are getting closer to signing agreements. I trust in God and have confidence that we will sign important agreements on a calendar and on implementing and verifying the human rights situation by mid-May at the latest.

Regarding the Nicaraguan dialogue, I have always—even when I was in the opposition in Guatemala—favored talks and agreements for solving problems. I have always furthered such efforts, proof of which is my heading the delegation that reached the agreements in Oslo. I was in the opposition then. I got the Guatemalan Government and the Army to sit down and negotiate with the guerrillas, which shows that my avocation has always been in favor of dialogue and agreements. I also promoted the national dialogue in Guatemala and my government is holding a dialogue with Guatemalan political parties. Furthermore, the government and the business and labor sectors have carried out several phases of talks regarding the social pact. We also maintain permanent talks with several sectors and people in the country to deal with matters and problems as they arise.

The reason I have stated all this is because I see there is an urgent need for dialogue in Nicaragua. All the sectors in the country want the dialogue and President Violeta Chamorro's government is more than willing to sit at a table to talk and find solutions to the country's serious economic and political problems. I talk in the name of all the Central American presidents. We see the dialogue as a healthy democratic exercise and greatly favor it. We assert at this forum and at any other forum that we staunchly support President Chamorro's government.

We believe an agreement can strengthen this government and the Nicaraguan democratic system. We want to leave clearly on record that this is an essential prerequisite for the four countries to advance together. This is why I want to tell you very sincerely that the Central American presidents leave extremely satisfied that Nicaragua has joined this effort for integration, knowing well that this will consolidate the ties of friendship among our countries and greatly strengthen our democratic systems.

Regarding your third question, in connection with my country's tragedy. I want to say that this tragedy has not just hurt the Indian people exclusively; it has affected the 23 ethnic groups that make up Guatemala. Guatemalans must end this tragedy, which is what we want and which we are struggling to attain. Thank you.

[Callejas, in progress] ...by constitutional mandate, presidents serve a four-year term. The Armed Forces chief is elected by Congress from a list of three names, which the Senior Council of the Armed Forces propose. He serves a three year term.

[Moderator] We have time for two more questions. (Nerije Mulligan) from PENSAMIENTO PROPIO, Rosemary Thorton from TV [word indistinct], and we will end with journalist Oswaldo Zuniga from Radio America.

[(Mulligan)] My question is to any one of the presidents. I have two quick questions. First, I see that the majority of the production factors have been given free transit consideration, but I am not aware if you have considered free transit in the jobs market and the possibility of working freely in any of the three or four countries. I only see that consideration given the visa issue. Second, you have agreed to establish the means to guarantee security and stability for foreign investment. I would like you to state some examples of how you will achieve this, given the rather turbulent situation in several countries. Thank you.

[Cristiani] Regarding your first question, this is obviously going to be a continual effort to create conditions for free transit of goods, services, or people. For the time being, we have spoken about free transit of people between our countries and shortly that will also include Nicaragua. We have held some discussions on the issue of labor, but nothing has yet been agreed. This is an issue that will require certain regulations, but we have addressed it from the point of view of facilitating it, not inhibiting it.

[(Mulligan)] What has been done to guarantee stability for investment?

[Serrano] Past experiences might be reason enough for some foreign investors to worry about coming to the Central American region. All of our countries have had, in one form or another, some degree of difficulty. We believe that these difficulties have been overcome. The degree of difficulty lies in how to restore the foreign investor's confidence in our countries so he will come and invest. It also depends on how willing our countries' investors will be to invest in the other countries. We are obviously in no position to guarantee the profitability of these investments because that is a risk the investor must take. There is a degree of security that the state must provide regarding the political risk. It could be related to squatters, confiscation, and expropriation. Any investor thinking of bringing money into our country is going to assess the political risk of his investment. What we must do is guarantee that there will be no political risk. The state must provide enough security, which is why we have given our economic teams instructions to define the state's specific responsibilities in providing security for foreign investments, from a political point of view.

Regarding the stability of these investments, our countries have been very flexible and willing to change certain economic guidelines, especially in exchange regulations, repatriation of capital, customs tariffs, and tax systems. Now, an investor comes into our countries knowing what taxes he must face but not what will happen a month or two or even one year after he establishes his business; what the tariffs he must pay for his raw materials, or those his competitors must pay. It is necessary, then, to

guarantee economic stability that will allow an investor to analyze his investment plans based on facts; otherwise, the investor will seek other countries with lower risk factors, or greater stability for investments, such as one of the countries in the North or South.

I believe that with the relations we have among the Central American countries—the efforts to make our customs systems, power tariffs, and tax systems as uniform as we possibly can—we are exhibiting a clearer picture, as it were, of the future stability of our systems. This, of course, is a guarantee we are offering the foreign investors. This is what we mean when we speak of security and stability.

[Thorton] [words indistinct]...regarding the foreign debt issue in each country. How are you going to deal with Nicaragua's foreign debt?

[Serrano] What governs this matter in each country is described in Part 6 of the agreement that states: Ratify the agreements reached at the presidential summits by giving Nicaragua temporary preferential treatment in the area of trade and exceptional treatment in the financial and debt fields to promote efficiently its reconstruction, rehabilitation, and the strengthening of its productive capabilities.

What does this mean? It means that we are looking for the means that will allow us to clear up the debt, while using fresh funds to reactivate the Nicaraguan economy. Presidents Callejas, Cristiani, Chamorro, and I have discussed the need to reactivate the agricultural economy of Nicaragua to incorporate Nicaragua's enormous potential and wealth with the rest of the countries. As we said on 21 April, we do not want any poor partners. We want rich partners who can gradually evolve along with our individual needs. We realize that Nicaragua, as of today, is at a disadvantage, and our wish is to help Nicaragua in any way we can to reconstruct its economy.

[Chamorro] [words indistinct] encourages all Nicaraguans, all workers, the small entrepreneurs, for example, those who make wicker furniture in Masaya. All of these things will be sold, and the people will exchange furniture and other things. [sentence indistinct] I think this is all very good, and it will provide all Nicaraguans with a good future. We will reconstruct our fatherland.

[Moderator] Osvaldo Zuniga now has the floor.

[Zuniga] I want to ask any of you what are the political considerations of this treaty? What will be the political repercussions of this political agreement that you are signing 22 April on the Central American people? I would also like to know what is the perspective of Group C.A. 4 in the international community?

[Chamorro] I think the perspective of this Group C.A. 4 in the international community is unity and more strength. We are responsible people and we are united. In addition, all of the presidents who are present here have been elected by the people. People in other countries notice this, as you well know.

[Cristiani] As for the impact or the political repercussions, it really does not need to have a direct political impact. We have seen the reaction in Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador when the measures were implemented beginning April 1993. The vast majority of the population voiced appreciation for the liberalization of trade and free transit of vehicles and persons through the borders.

The free trade we have begun also has favorable repercussions. It does not have negative political repercussions. There might be groups or persons who are indirectly against the economic integration, but thank God these groups are in the minority in our country. The vast majority favor integration in our countries.

[Moderator] Thank you very much for this news conference. The Central American presidents are now leaving; they are going back to their countries. Thank you for your attention. [applause]

Cuba

Raul Castro on Disintegration of Socialist Bloc, Lourdes Center

FL2204142793 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] In the second part of the interview granted to the daily EL SOL DE MEXICO by Army General Raul Castro, the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] minister says the disintegration of the socialist bloc, especially the Soviet Union, is one of the most important events of the nineties for Cuba due to how it directly affected the country. Raul explained how the disintegration of the rest of the socialist bloc, of Eastern Europe, affected our country negatively due to the trade we used to conduct with the countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.

A drastic reduction in resources vital to the economy took place. The fair prices of our trade with the Socialist Bloc and other advantages were lost, and exports were reduced by over 70 percent between 1989 to 1992. This meant that 45 percent of our import capacity had to be earmarked for acquisition of petroleum and petroleum byproducts.

The FAR minister also explained how the sugar harvest has been significantly affected by the lack of fuel, fertilizers, and other resources of all kinds—and on top of this, the recent winter storm.

In another part of his interview, Castro said that we are very happy with what we have achieved, despite the fact that only education and health care are talked about. That is not, however, all we have done. He then said that despite our deficiencies and mistakes, no one here dies of hunger like they do in other countries of Latin America and no one is thrown out into the streets. Despite the fact that there are a number of factories shut down, these factories' workers receive a minimum of 60 percent of their salaries.

Castro explained that this special period in a peacetime situation had already been anticipated back at the beginning of the Reagan administration, and that this is why we have been able to palliate the situation somewhat.

Raul also talked to his interviewer, Mario Vazquez Rana, about the civilian and military technicians from the former Soviet Union still remaining here, and about the cost—which, for Cuba, is already insignificant. [as heard]

Vazquez Rana also asked about Cuban tobacco and sugar exports. Regarding that matter, Castro said the exports have been affected by two factors: the lack of fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides and the shortage of fuel, which affects mechanization and transport. He said that in general, so far this year, the climate has been bad for all agricultural production and that this year is going to be even harder.

Regarding the nation's defense, Raul explained that we have an Army and Armed Forces that are too big and too costly in relation to the nation's economic development. This is due to the aid received from the former Soviet Union in the military sphere over the past 30 years. The value of our armament in old prices could be some $10 billion. He said we will always remember with gratitude the free assistance the USSR used to give us, regarding armaments.

Raul also talked about whether the radio electronic research [exploracion] center, which the Yankees know as Lourdes, would remain in Cuban territory. Whether this center will remain or be withdrawn is being analyzed and negotiated with Russia.

The final part of Raul's interview to EL SOL DE MEXICO is on the inventiveness being shown by the military aimed at saving resources or in preparing the troops for combat without lowering their quality and in some cases even improving it; the self-sufficiency program being implemented in the military units; and the important work of the Youth Labor Army in production work for the civilian economy. GRANMA will continue to publish this interview in later editions.

Says 'USSR' Brigade To Withdraw by 'Midyear'

FL2204132393 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] In the interview he granted the daily paper EL SOL DE MEXICO, Raul Castro said: Our military doctrine is based on our own efforts and on a war of the entire people.

The Revolutionary Armed Forces minister said: We will always remember with gratitude the armament we used to receive for free from the USSR as aid to our country.

Raul stressed the strategic value Cuba had back when there were two superpowers and permanent confrontation. He announced that the former USSR's motorized infantry brigade will have finished withdrawing by midyear.

Raul Castro Congratulates Eastern Army for 'Best Command'

FL2204121793 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1940 GMT 21 Apr 93

[Text] Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, congratulated the Eastern Army on their trophy presentation for best command in Cuba in salute to the 32d anniversary of its creation. This was announced during the main ceremony marking this important date, which was held at the Eastern Army's Study Regiment in the northern municipality of Puerto Padre, Las Tunas Province. This unit has received the National Vanguard award three years in a row.

In his closing address, Alfredo Jordan, a member of the Politburo and first PCC secretary in Las Tunas, congratulated the officers and soldiers of the Eastern Army and recalled the historical period of the creation of the Eastern Army on 21 April 1961 following the Bay of Pigs victory. He said that the soldiers and the people in general in the eastern provinces and Camaguey will never fail the revolution or Fidel.

CDR Calls For Participation in 1 May Activities

FL2204181593 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] Concerning the 1 May celebration, the national secretariat of the Committee for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] issued the following communique.

The document points out that on 1 May, we will launch, throughout the country, an unprecedented battle in the fight against the economic embargo and the Torricelli Law imposed by the United States. We also fight in defense of the human rights of our courageous and heroic people. The Cuban CDR issues a call to join the combative ranks together with the worker class. Together, they will express their firm conviction to defend the revolution at the necessary price and to convert the Workers' Day into another resounding: Yes for Cuba.

'Friends From All Over the World' To Attend 1 May Commemoration

FL2204195693 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] Not only are our own people going to be present in the square for the 1 May celebration, but friends from all over the world will also be present. Manuel Monteiro, an official from the Cuban Workers Confederation's [CTC] International Relations Department, discussed this with journalist Zenaida Costales:

[Begin Monteiro recording] On 1 May, we are going to have participation by several hundred union leaders from different countries. By yesterday, we already had confirmation from 671 people from 29 countries and over 40 union organizations. These people have been confirming their participation. We are going to have groups from Puerto Rico, the United States, Canada, France, Mexico, Brazil, and other countries of the world who wish to show their solidarity with Cuban workers and unions by participating with us in the 1 May commemoration.

I think it is important for you to know that these guests are not going to participate in just the 1 May activities. On 2 May in the Villa Panamericana itself, where the great majority of visitors are to be lodged, there will also be an international meeting of solidarity with Cuba entitled "Let Us Defend Hope." At this meeting these hundreds of participants are going to publicly express their solidarity with the Cuban people. The meeting is also to consider approval of a declaration in solidarity with Cuba from all the participants. [end recording]

ANPP Vice President Announces Postponement of Accountability to Voters

FL2204211993 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] Jaime Crombet, vice president of the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP], has announced in Bayamo that the process of having the delegates account to their voters has been postponed until September and October. Journalist Jorge Luis Batista has the details.

[Batista] These assemblies were scheduled for May. Considering the great number of district delegates who have been replaced and the formation of Administrative Councils in the municipalities and provinces, however, it was decided to change the date for these meetings to better organize and upgrade them.

Jaime Crombet said that the assessment assembly must be perfected. He said these meetings must be well-prepared, scheduled in plenty of time, conducted with the support of the mass organizations and with agendas that are not too heavily loaded to be able to conduct them properly. They should not affect the population's daily life, not interfere with other interests, and should be held in suitable places.

The vice president of the ANPP explained that the central topics for discussion of assessment accounts should not be the problems raised by the voters because the district delegate should be receiving (?the voters) constantly and giving them a direct answers and need not wait for the assessment assembly to hear about new concerns the voters might have.

Delving a bit more deeply into the kind of action a district delegate should take during the assessment assembly, Crombet said the delegate should not bring up problems; rather, he should think about what can be done in the area for which he is responsible to solve problems without having to take them to anyone else.

Crombet provided guidance: Problems must be responded to as they arise. He also said it was essential for the district delegates, as well as the provincial delegates and deputies, to always be on the offensive. He also discussed how to solve or explain any difficulties that may arise at the base level.

Santiago de Cuba Receiving Only 16 Percent of Energy Supply

FL2304004293 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1948 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] Electric service in Santiago de Cuba Province has been seriously affected since yesterday following an

interruption in the national service line in Ciego de Avila and a breakdown at the Santiago de Cuba thermoelectric plant.

Presently, the province is receiving only 16 percent of the energy normally supplied. Reynaldo Endis, the president of the Provincial Assembly of the People's Government, announced that for this reason the electric service has been prioritized to serve hospitals and other essential activities.

Extraordinary human and material efforts are being made at the Antonio Maceo Rente Thermoelectric Plant to gradually begin reestablishing electric service tonight.

The rains that began yesterday in Santiago de Cuba Province have caused 100 collapses [not further specified]. Fortunately, there has been no loss of human life.

Additional Power Outages Announced

FL2304003993 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1934 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] The capacity of the national electric system for generating electricity is limited because of breakdowns at certain plants and difficulties with fuel supplies at others. This has resulted in emergency power outages in Havana since this morning. This was reported by Arturo Mora de la Cruz, an official of the Basic Electric Union of Havana, who said that there will be outages from 2300 GMT to 0100 GMT in Guanabacoa, Regla, Cotorro, San Miguel del Padron, and Habana del Este Municipalities. He added that the outages might also include Centro Habana and Habana Vieja during the same period if electric generation conditions demand it. It was also reported that there will be a power outage from 0000 GMT to 0230 GMT in sections of Marianao, Playa, and La Lisa Municipalities.

Telephone Links to Northern Keys Go Into Service

FL2204150893 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] The first telephone links with the keys north of the central part of Cuba have gone into service (?at) the communications center that is under construction in the city of Ciego de Avila. Once finished, the building will have an automatic telephone facility, another for telex, public telephones, operator services, and other facilities for communicating with the north coast and the rest of Ciego de Avila Province.

Commentary Rejects Western Stories of 'Famine'

PA2204161293 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Commentary by Roberto Morejon]

[Text] Western media have created a scandal over some routine food advice that appeared in two Cuban newspapers. The National Information Agency [AIN] and the weekly publication TRABAJADORES, a union mouthpiece, coincidentally recommended that its readers test the vitamin benefits of certain plants as an efficient complement to the human diet.

A popular dietitian, who for 30 years has had a television program with useful cooking hints, was also mentioned along with AIN and TRABAJADORES as part of an official campaign intended to drill Cubans on rudimentary eating habits to compensate for lack of food at state-run food stores. All sorts of stories were fabricated in Western newspapers over the alleged Cuban famine, which was described in a way similar to how the Ethiopian famine was reported at the time.

The IPS wire service objectively reported that the rationing of grains, meats, and milk in Cuba is acute, but the people are not desperate and do not ravage parks to eat flowers. IPS correctly appraised the situation: The image projected about Cuba is that of a country in decay. Public opinion-shaping techniques are used for that purpose and show exhausted citizens in the prelude of their country's collapse.

A similar idea was presented by a sector of Cuban exiles in Miami, who oppose any civilized treatment of Havana, when a fake report recently emerged, falsely attributed to experts in Cuba, forecasting Cuba's economic collapse. No one can deny there are more daily shortages in Cuba, which coincide with a heightened U.S. blockade, coupled with the loss of traditional trading partners and local shortages. Distribution mechanisms, however, ensure a minimum consumption for subsistence at reasonable prices to the point that basic free services continue, such as education and public health.

It is true that Cuban families face complexities when preparing their daily menu, but by using initiative the shortages can be resolved and the green medicine helps alleviate it, just like in any other underdeveloped country.

The daily work of Cubans, international understanding and solidarity, and developing vital economic projects in future years will contribute gradually to reducing today's shortages, which, despite all this, leave no room in Cuba for apocalyptic predictions.

New Administrative Councils Viewed

PA2304042493 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Apr 93

[Commentary by Roberto Morejon]

[Text] The beginning of the work of the Administrative Councils in all of the provinces and municipalities in Cuba marks a new phase in the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] system and in the process of delegating authority by the legislative and governmental branches. The implementation process for these new structures was completed during the weekend of 18

April. The councils will answer to the provincial and municipal governments and will be tasked with directing the activities of the economic and service entities in each territory. The integration of the Administrative Councils is one of the most important steps for the people's government following the successful elections of December 1992.

As you may remember, more than 7.5 million voters elected the members of the municipal and provincial government assemblies by direct secret vote, as well as the nation's deputies. The newly-elected officials have begun to apply their ideas and those proposed by the voters themselves during their contacts with the candidates, all directed at streamlining the Cuban Government system.

Among the first measures adopted was the creation of the Administrative Councils to replace the local bodies of the ANPP, which were appointed from within the ANPP itself to exercise the government's authority in each region. This practice led to a duplication of functions. The local bodies governed and administrated at the same time, which impeded a stricter degree of control over production and services. This contradiction was overcome with the creation of the councils, whose members are those citizens with the best administrative talent in the municipalities and provinces. The people and various levels of government will closely supervise the work of the councils. The council will periodically report to them on its work. The country, thus, takes a new step toward an improved administration of its resources, creating more effective directive mechanisms with less red tape for the bureaucracy.

CECE Vice Minister on Euromoney Conference, Economy

FL2304020893 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] On 22 April, Octavio Castilla, vice minister of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation [CECE], met with reporters to discuss the Euromoney conference held recently in London, as well as important issues of the Cuban economy. Castilla described the conference, in which 54 companies participated, as positive and said that very important issues were discussed during the conference. The discussions included legislative aspects of foreign investments, the Cuban banking system, and issues of finance, as well as the creation of joint enterprises, and Cuba's foreign debt.

Castilla said that in 1992, 26 joint enterprises were created and that in the present quarter, 15 new enterprises have already been created. This demonstrates that businessmen are recognizing the possibilities of investing in Cuba.

Next, Castilla discussed the Cuban economy:

[Begin Castilla recording] The Cuban economy experienced an abrupt rupture of its economic ties in December 1989, which brought on a systematic slowdown, a negative growth rate that is still taking place. Cuban optimists and pessimists, friends with whom I speak and who are experts on these economic issues, say that the economy will "hit bottom," the famous phrase, in the second half of 1993 or the beginning of 1994. Therefore, a recovery process must begin next. This has been taken under consideration.

A group of measures, a number of decisions have been made to support the first signs of positive economic growth next year. This is also seen as positive. I believe that what will determine whether the recovery begins this year or at the beginning of the next is dependent on several factors. One is the sugarcane harvest; another, the number of tourists visiting Cuba; another, the increase of pharmaceutical exports; another, the success of the self-sufficiency programs of the various Cuban industries. There are a number of things that will play a role. I believe that the recovery process will begin in the second half of this year and that next year the economy will already be showing positive signs. I am not alone in this. Many experts on Cuba are saying abroad that the Cuban economy is beginning to show signs of recovery. [end recording]

Castilla stated that if the sugarcane harvest does not meet the projected goals, these can be met through income generated by other resources, particularly the self-sufficiency programs that various Cuban enterprises are conducting, which will free the state from many responsibilities and financial burdens once they begin to bear results.

Culture Minister on Relations With Spain

FL2204145893 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0900 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] On 21 April in Madrid, Cuban Culture Minister Armando Hart Davalos said, just before leaving for Havana, that he had found a very fraternal environment in this European country. In statements to the PRENSA LATINA NEWS AGENCY Hart said that Spain, in the cultural field, has an open road toward relations with Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Cuban culture minister spent several days in Madrid before going to China and the DPRK for official visits in these Asian nations. During his stay in Madrid, he met with his Spanish counterpart, Jordi Sole, and Inocencio Arias, secretary of state for Iberoamerican International Cooperation of the Spanish Foreign Ministry.

Contrary to what happened in Beijing and Pyongyang, Hart made a short layover in Madrid, where he took a quick tour of the Spanish Higher Scientific Research Center and met with the dean of the Madrid Polytechnical University.

Hart also said the prize awarded to Cuban poet Dulce Maria Loynaz was very important. He added that this recognition of this Cuban distinguished intellectual adds

to thinking about the identity that unites Cuba and Spain beyond the political ideologies and philosophies.

On the other hand, Hart said that the day Cubans renounce the four basic national cultural principles, which are the Hispanic and African roots, its Latin American heritage, and its anti-imperialist character, is when the country will be in trouble.

Haiti

Reaction to Prime Minister's 20 Apr Speech

FL2304011093 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] The news today consists of reactions to the speech by consensus Prime Minister Marc Bazin. Bazin's speech was not a great success with the political sector. If the first address of the prime minister on 13 April had not given rise to many reactions within the political sector, the one on 20 April does not provoke many comments either. The few comments and opinions offered so far, more than 24 hours after the speech, indicate a variety of interpretations and degrees of appreciation. Edner Jean filed a report:

[Begin recording] [Jean] CONACOM [National Congress of Democratic Movements] basically remembers nothing of Marc Bazin's latest speech. Jean-Claude Bajeux, assistant secretary of the party, simply points out the aspect of the consensus government's new proposal that is most provocative, or most delaying. Why should one consult 10,000 people to reinstate a president the nation has already elected, he wonders.

CONACOM, a component of FNCD, [National Front for Change and Democracy], the national political front favoring the return of the ousted president, believes that Marc Bazin's words, far from promoting a solution, are only worsening the political and economic situation of the country.

[Bajeux] I think the de facto government has taken a pose to show a desire to express itself while we have been waiting nine months for it to demonstrate a desire to negotiate. It is curious that a government founded on 3,000 deaths and 28,000 arbitrary arrests tries to give us instruction in a peaceful solution to the crisis. We are the ones who since the beginning have favored a peaceful solution. The plan of negotiations that has been set up is a plan that we in CONACOM have advocated for more than 15 months.

It is again curious that only now has the de facto government become aware of the necessity to negotiate when it should have been negotiating since the first day and since the first day should have been aware of Article 148. [end recording]

[Jean] He has again spoken to stall for time. These were the first comments by the MDN [Mobilization for National Development] president following the second address by Marc Bazin. According to De Ronceray, however, time is against the prime minister and requires his resignation. Hubert de Ronceray believes that in this speech the prime minister attempted to plead not guilty in an effort to blame Dante Caputo, the UN/OAS envoy, for whom de Ronceray himself has no great liking. MDN sees in Marc Bazin an actor who continues playing to stay as long as possible onstage. The comedy cannot last, however. The prime minister is about to fall. These were Hubert de Ronceray's words.

[Begin recording] [de Ronceray] The pseudo-negotiations having again collapsed, Marc L. Bazin wants to return to the beginning, meaning with parliament, which by violating the Constitution, has imposed the Washington Agreement on us. Haiti is revolving in the infernal circle of negotiations that are plunging it into the abyss. I believe it was Marc Bazin himself who had solicited OAS intervention in Haiti. He solicited the presence of an OAS/DEMOC mission in Haiti. He applauded with both hands the arrival of Dante Caputo and today it is this same Marc Bazin who is telling us that Dante Caputo has no plan, that he is incoherent, that his plan is nonexistent. I believe that incoherence begins with Marc Bazin. He did not say how or why he sought and hailed Caputo's help with pride and vanity. [end recording]

[Jean] Jean-Claude Roy thinks in an opposite way. The leader of UCH, Union of Haitian Constitutionalists, thinks that Marc Bazin's attitude is correct regarding Dante Caputo's activities. We cannot tolerate hide-and-seek diplomacy from the representative of the international community, said Jean-Claude Roy indignantly, while quoting part of the prime minister's speech. If Mr. Roy agrees with the essentials of Marc Bazin's statements, he has, however, some reservations on the idea of a national conference.

[Begin recording] [Roy] I think that it is unacceptable for a UN/OAS envoy to preposterously impose his dictates in a game of hide-and-seek, to quote Mr. Bazin. That is the essential point on which I agree with Mr. Bazin. As with his previous speech, however, there were some points on which I do not agree with him. The national conference is certainly necessary. To avoid doubts, discredit, and critics, however, I do not think that it is necessary to convene the members of parliament. I believe that it is necessary to convene the representatives of the organized sectors who will eventually produce this document we need so much and which would perhaps be submitted for parliamentary ratification. [end recording].

[Jean] It was Reynold Georges' turn to recall that the prime minister had promised upon his appointment to negotiate anywhere, anytime, and without conditions. [end recording]

Nava Party Leader Admits Defeat in Local Elections

PA2304043393 Mexico City Canal 13 Television Azteca Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Report by Martin Carmona Torres in San Luis Potosi]

[Text] Manuel Nava Caldillo, leader of the Nava Political Party [Nava Partido Politico], has admitted his party did not win the special elections held on 18 April in San Luis Potosi to appoint the governor and local congress members.

Nava was interviewed by Channel 13 Television and he attributed the scant participation of his party supporters to errors in his political campaign strategy, rifts within San Luis Potosi's political opposition, slander campaigns launched by [word indistinct] groups against the Nava Political Party, and alleged irregularities before and after the elections.

[Begin Nava recording] I must accept the fact we may have made mistakes in our political strategy and this somehow influenced the people, who did not vote. I believe we received less votes because some people, especially the middle class and the upper middle class, opted for a business scheme, meaning a business-oriented viewpoint, which is represented by the National Action Party [PAN]. We have stated we did not win in this electoral process, yet we believe the process was tainted from the beginning. [end recording]

PAN candidate Jorge Lozano Armengol said he challenges the Institutional Revolutionary Party [PRI] to accept the scrutiny of a specific number of polling places to confirm the PRI received all the votes it claims. Moreover, PRI candidate Horacio Sanchez Unzueta referred to the PAN proposal and said: I will immediately accept whatever procedure the Electoral Council decides to settle the controversy.

Costa Rica

World Bank Approves Third Structural Adjustment Program

PA2204163393 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 16 Apr 93 p 12a

[Report by Nelson Murillo]

[Text] The World Bank has approved the third Structural Adjustment Program (PAE-III) but is requiring 30 new laws to modernize Costa Rica's economy and assign more resources to the social fields for the country to emerge from underdevelopment.

That is what President Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier said when he called on the National Liberation Party and other political groups to support the agreement.

The program, which received the support of the World Bank board of directors, will allow $350 million to enter Costa Rican coffers.

The president had announced during a 15 April news conference at 1515 that Mr. Humberto Segura, head of the World Bank mission in Costa Rica, had just confirmed by telephone the board of directors' unanimous decision.

"It is international recognition of all Costa Ricans," the president said.

After accepting that the government "does not have a monopoly on what is correct," the president disclosed that he sent the political opposition a "clear message" to present reforms to the adjustment draft bill.

When Costa Rica executes the series of measures outlined under PAE-III, it will receive $100 million from the World Bank, $80 million from the Inter-American Development Bank, and an additional $170 million from the latter organization. The goal is to boost progress through support to specific production sectors.

Regarding required complementary actions, Planning Minister Dr. Carlos Vargas Pagan said that to consolidate PAE-III, the following laws must be approved: democratization of the public sector; open competition and effective defense of the consumer; an opening of the insurance market from its current monopoly; and complement pensions and a modernization of the financial system (currency law and banking system reforms).

Vargas Pagan said that the approval of other complementary laws such as breaking the limit on dismissal benefits, new public employment regulations, eliminating articles that punish strikers in government employment, and a reform of the labor code will allow Costa Rica to "arrive at the threshold of a developed country."

Man Arrested, Linked to Seizure of 12 AK-47 Submachine Guns

PA2304041793 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 20 Apr 93 p 18a

[Text] OIJ [Judicial Investigation Agency] sources confirmed the arrest of a man with the surname Rodriguez in Los Chiles de Alajuela. He has been linked to the seizure of 12 AK-47 submachine guns on 15 April from a house in Cinco Esquinas de Tibas. Rodriguez is being held on the suspicion that he is a member of a gang that specializes in gunrunning in Nicaragua and Panama. The weapons were intended for groups opposed to the Panamanian Government.

The OIJ does not rule out that the submachine guns were destined for criminal gangs operating within Costa Rica.

On 15 April, the police raided a house in Alajuela, where Rodriguez apparently hid, and seized the weapons.

Unofficial sources report that Rodriguez was a member of Eden Pastora's, the legendary "Commander Cero," commando group, which at the end of the 1970's assaulted Nicaragua's National Palace and held over 1,000 hostages.

Honduras

* President Supports 'Total Purge' of DNI

93CA0094C Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 12 Mar 93 p 52

[Text] Acting President Jacobo Hernandez Cruz said yesterday that President Rafael Leonardo Callejas is already aware of the proposal that the Ad Hoc Commission has submitted to him, adding that he supports it.

The Honduran chief executive is currently in the Republic of Chile, where he is meeting with that country's president, Patricio Alwyn, and with Chilean industrialists and officials to negotiate a trade treaty.

The Ad Hoc Commission, which is chaired by the archbishop of Tegucigalpa, Monsignor Oscar Andres Rodriguez, proposed last Wednesday that the National Directorate of Investigations (DNI) be taken over immediately as a preliminary step toward a complete purge.

In addition, it proposed that DNI agents who are implicated in crimes be brought to trial.

In order to achieve this objective, President Callejas will have to appoint an Oversight Board consisting of two civilian officials and one military officer.

Hernandez Cruz gave assurances that the Honduran chief executive fully supports the commission's proposal.

The Ad Hoc Commission was established after former DNI agent Josue Eli Zuniga Martinez requested protection from the human rights commissioner and charged

that DNI agents in San Pedro Sula had been committing crimes and trafficking in drugs.

In another vein, the acting president flatly ruled out the possibility that the government would absorb the increase in oil prices to prevent the hike from being passed on to consumers.

* CODEH Denounces Violations by Police, Military

93CA0094A San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 12 Mar 93 p 33

[Text] La Ceiba—The La Ceiba branch of the Human Rights Committee of Honduras (CODEH) spoke out yesterday at a press conference about several cases of mistreatment, torture, and violations of the basic rights of coastal residents.

The charges were leveled at the police bodies in this region that are under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Isaac Santos Aguilar. After the news conference, the regional coordinator of CODEH, Raul Lobo, submitted a document containing details of several of the reported cases.

CODEH says in the document that "we feel that the flippancy with which some judges have acted has emboldened the military, which is now operating publicly. They are killing, firing their weapons, and torturing publicly."

It then details several cases, including one in Rio Esteban, in the municipality of Balfate, Colon, where the home of the Mustapa family was searched. During the search the agents destroyed equipment and raw materials used to process lobster, which is the family business.

Abrahim Mustapa Amahamad was tortured into handing over 50 kilograms of cocaine that he allegedly had in his possession. He was tortured in public, beaten with a club more than an inch and a half thick while his head was submerged in the waters of the river as onlookers watched in astonishment.

The action was taken at noon on 25 February by six agents of the La Ceiba DNI [National Directorate of Investigation] under the command of Captain Carlos Esteban Henriquez Alvarez and the FSP [Public Security Forces] sergeant in Balfate, Colon. The Balfate magistrate's court has taken up the case, as a criminal suit was filed against Captain Henriquez Alvarez.

Three days later, on 28 February at 1800 hours in the town of San Juan Pueblo, near the San Martin warehouse, Efrain Orellana was gunned down by two FSP agents identified as "El Chele" Valladares and "El Chaparro." When Orellana asked why they were arresting him, they beat him savagely and took him to the police jail, where they bound his legs with a rope, threw him to the floor, and kicked him.

He was told to pay a 300-lempira fine or else be sent to prison. He paid and was released, after which he went to the medical center, where he was found to have suffered several broken ribs.

On 6 March at 1930 hours in the town of La Cumbre, an FSP patrol under the command of a sergeant began rounding up young men, claiming that they were recruiting. One boy identified as Jose Humberto Romero ran off; an agent fired two shots into the air, and he stopped, whereupon another shot wounded him in the hip. They got him up and onto the bed of a pickup truck and dropped him off at Atlantida Hospital, where he was just operated on. The sergeant at the La Masica station said that the person he wanted to kill was Nicomedes Rosales Villanueva, who had just returned from the United States and refused to "lend him" 500 lempiras.

One night between 15 to 20 January in the community of Saba, Colon, an FSP patrol killed a man known in the community as "Dudas" and was then brazen enough to show up at the home of the victim's parents and tell them that he was dead.

"There have been a number of deaths that have gone unpunished in this community, and people are living in constant fear of actions by the police, who are even jailing minors," the document from the CODEH regional office says in conclusion.

Nicaragua

Chamorro, Guatemalan President Sign Joint Statement

PA2204223093 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0230 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] Upon ending an official visit, Guatemalan President Jorge Serrano Elias signed a joint statement with Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro, formalizing their commitment to democracy and integration of the Central American nations in the search for development. The statement expresses the leaders' willingness to instruct the presidents of their nation's central banks to propose a special solution for renegotiating Nicaragua's debt with Guatemala. This would imply special benefits for our country. The leaders also reaffirmed their commitment to democracy and recognized that international cooperation plays an essential role in pacification, freedom, democracy, and development in the region.

Deputy on Guatemalan President's Visit, UNO Absence at Assembly

PA2204154093 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2200 GMT 21 Apr 93

[Text] Deputy Luis Sanchez Sancho told the "Five O'Clock Sharp" program that Guatemalan President Jorge Serrano Elias' visit is very important for Nicaragua. The National Opposition Unity (UNO) faction was not present during Serrano's visit to the Legislative Assembly, however, because it does not legally recognize

the Assembly's board of directors. The people know that the board of directors was imposed by the military, Sanchez said. Nevertheless, Sanchez added that the UNO wing had sent a letter to President Serrano explaining the situation. Here is what Sanchez said:

[Begin recording] [Sanchez] It is always important when a high-ranking foreign dignitary visits our country. This is very important because it heightens national awareness, particularly in protocol relations. In the case of President Serrano Elias, it has a very special meaning. President Serrano is very, very interested in Nicaragua normalizing not only its economic situation, with a view to joining the economic integration process and creating free zones in the northern Central American region but also its political situation. Although Nicaragua is a signatory to the Central American Parliament (Parlacen) commitments and conventions, it is still behind. At this stage the government has not even shown any signs of plans to elect the 20 Nicaraguan deputies to participate in Parlacen. I know that President Serrano wonders and is concerned about how it is possible for Nicaragua to progress in the economic integration if it does not do the same politically. So his visit is important. I do not know what he discussed with our nation's high-ranking authorities, but I believe that the results will be positive to the extent that Nicaragua, I repeat, normalizes its political participation in the Central American integration process.

[Unidentified reporter] The UNO faction was not present this morning during the Guatemalan President's visit to the Legislative Assembly. What does that mean?

[Sanchez] It has a political meaning. It is a matter of protocol. We do not recognize the legitimacy of the authorities who were imposed on the Legislative Assembly as a result of last year's presidential agreement 341-92. Therefore, we do not have to participate in these matters. We come to the Legislative Assembly only when we consider our presence necessary for some matter of political interest. Anyway, before President Serrano came to Nicaragua, he had already talked with representatives from the UNO legislative wing. He is aware of this whole situation; he understands perfectly well. This morning he invited the main opposition leaders to have breakfast with him, so there is no problem in that regard. President Serrano understands our position perfectly well: It is one of principle and that is the reason for that situation.

* Reasons for Embassy Takeover Viewed

* Right Wing Blamed

93CA0089A Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 10 Mar 93 p 6

[Editorial: "The Right in Arms"]

[Text] Everyone must realize that the action organized by the far right and executed by mercenary Jose Urbina Lara and his henchmen against the Nicaraguan Embassy in San Jose, Costa Rica is part of the increasingly obvious plans of the groups that for some time now have been going around with lighted torches both inside and outside the country in a bid to provoke another fratricidal conflagration and make off with complete economic and political power, as their Yankee masters are demanding.

It is no accident that Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo reported last week that he has been approached by several individuals who have told him that the only solution in this country is war; no doubt they were seeking the prelate's approval. What happened in Costa Rica is not unexpected either, since a Cesar extremist declared in the National Assembly that there would soon be a few surprises like this one.

The fact is that the substance of the demands by the rightist criminals is a clear illustration of the propagandistic language of the heralds of death, Virgilio Godoy, Alfredo Cesar, and Arnoldo Aleman, the tireless promoters of violence and absolutism. The idea is to lop off the heads of General Humberto Ortega, the minister of the presidency, and Lenin Cerda, so that once they are gone or have been weakened and once posts that are important for national stability are vacant, the rightists criminals can take their places and begin the policy of terror and extermination about which they dream day and night.

It is just as well that the government overcame its spinelessness (as when Foreign Minister Ernesto Leal even asked newsmen not to describe the people who assaulted the embassy as "bandits or criminals"), refused to negotiate with them, and showed resolve and steadfastness, which for some time have been conspicuous by their absence, in dealing with its enemies on the right. It would have been fatal for the government to have given in on this, because by negotiating with people of this ilk, it would have become easy prey for any other group that decided to blackmail it.

The public now has one more piece of evidence about the people who are calling for more and more bloodshed, more and more violence, as they have turned war into a big business through which they have not only fattened their bank accounts but are even trying to climb to power. They will use this power to inflict further misery on a people who want only peace and jobs, who are barely surviving on tortillas and salt, and who realize that the neo-Somozist political hacks have turned subversion and hot air into a simple method for squeezing them dry and scuttling any hope of justice and true democracy.

Let us hope that this whole incident of extremist vandalism is of some use to those who are still unable to distinguish between truth and falsehood.

* Government Responsible

93CA0089B Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Mar 93 p 12

[Commentary by Roger Mendieta Alfaro]

[Text] When a person has a tension headache, all that he needs to do is take some aspirin to solve the problem. And if instead of suffering from a tension headache, we have an accident and break a bone, an orthopedic surgeon can reset it.

But when a human being, besides having a headache, has a swollen stomach, is urinating blood, is having trouble breathing, and has a temperature of 104 that causes him to quiver constantly in a profuse sweat, the cure is not to take some aspirin. He needs something more: a conference of physicians, laboratory exams, and emergency drugs to head off the crisis so that a treatment can be chosen.

This is the situation in Nicaragua. Our country has been unwell for some time. First it had a headache, as indicated by the words of the last Somoza (our heart, muscles, and stomach were still fine; Nicaragua produced enough to live off and did not have the beggar's image that has covered us in shame).

The blundering Sandinist administration caused hallucinations in the patient. He thought that he was Tarzan and began a tenacious battle to promote the use of loincloths, fostering a competition among international thugs in which our poor national legends lost their freedom of movement and their commitment to their own means of subsistence, thus catapulting the country into a sort of billboard stardom in which Nicaragua and Nicaraguans were left twisting in the breeze.

The patient's condition worsened during this period. Sores opened up all over his body; he lost touch with reality, and suffered so many different kinds of wounds that exhaustion dragged him down into self-rejection: the citizens swarming through the plazas reproached him for his errors and made him pay for them at the elections in February 1990.

The Somoza experience had been repeated at a higher social pitch. The country was stained with blood; millions of Nicaraguans fell into poverty, and thousands in wheelchairs deplored the frustration of a war without objectives.

Once again, fate fueled by political intolerance and stubbornness has set traps for Nicaragua. The government that emerged from the UNO [National Opposition Union] coalition, led by President Chamorro, has yielded its administrative power to the defeated party. Our friend the businessman turned politician did not have the slightest idea of what managing the state is all about.

Hence, the regrettable takeover of the Nicaraguan Embassy in Costa Rica should be seen as part of the general unrest caused by a poor administration of justice, crime in the streets, the problem of ownership, and the improper management of state resources, an unrest that is being expressed in worrisome ways, such as the Arges Sequiera murder in EL Sauce and the destruction of properties such as Julio Ruiz Quezada's in Matagalpa.

We believe that as we affirmed initially in the party documents and in the national dialogue full of good intentions, only a change of course can provide a solution to Nicaragua's crisis.

Panama

FP Director Denies U.S. Involvement in Kidnapped Missionaries Search

PA2204202393 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 22 Apr 93 p 2A

[Report by Jose Quintero de Leon]

[Text] Elements of the U.S. Southern Command did not participate in any way in the operation carried out a few months ago by the Public Force [FP] in the Darien jungle, as some political opposition elements stated, Major Santiago Cristobal Fundora, general director of the National Air Service (SAN), said.

The operation was aimed at locating three U.S. missionaries who were allegedly kidnapped by Colombian guerrillas who entered Panamanian territory through the Darien jungle.

Opposition groups have stated many times, however, that the announced kidnapping of the New Tribe members was a "smoke screen" to allow Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents, supported by the U.S. Army South, to conduct searches for Pablo Escobar Gaviria.

Fundora regretted the fact that there are opposition groups that underestimate the work done by the FP. According to the SAN director, the only way in which the United States participated in the operation was by providing a Chinook helicopter that carried supplies to the area, given the impossibility of the SAN aircraft to do so.

According to Fundora, not one U.S. soldier set foot in the area in which the FP had worked in Darien. He said that the Colombian authorities should know whether Escobar is in Panama because there is a lot of money and the most advanced equipment involved in that search. He said, however, it is very unlikely that Escobar may be in the Darien border area.

Meanwhile, Fundora reported that so far the different components of the FP, National Maritime Service, SAN, National Police, as well as the PTJ [Judicial Technical Police], customs, and immigration offices maintained

strict surveillance of the border. Therefore, he concluded, it can be assumed that the kidnappers are outside of the national territory.

Legislator Says Bocas del Tora Operations Covering up Weapons Trafficking

PA2204155693 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Apr 93

[Text] Legislator Leo Gonzalez reported that there is evidence that the operations being conducted by the Attorney General's office in Bocas del Toro Province are to cover up a large weapons-trafficking operation there. According to the legislator, it is very strange that not one gram of drugs has been seized yet. Gonzalez met with Customs Director Rodrigo Arosemena to coordinate details regarding a visit by the Legislative Assembly Drug Commission to Bocas del Toro on 4 and 5 May to gather information on drug trafficking. Arosemena will represent the Customs Directorate at the meeting, according to Gonzalez. Contacts are also being made to secure participation in the meeting of the directors of the Judicial Technical Police and the National Police.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] I suspect that this set up in Bocas del Toro is all for show—and I have evidence—to try and cover up other operations that have nothing to do with drugs but weapons and the like instead. Unfortunately, this operation was probably used to tip off other people. I hope this is not the case. The Drug Commission will carry out, however, an in-depth investigation to the very end. [end recording]

Customs Director Rodrigo Arosemena expressed his concern about the authorities' deciding to keep two customs officials under arrest, without allowing them any sort of legal recourse.

[Begin Arosemena recording] It was not until 20 April that my officials were questioned, which has not allowed them to adequately prepare their defense. I believe that if one of my officials is implicated in this, well, I have already spoken about the electric chair. But if other people have manipulated this case, specifically at the Attorney General's Office, the electric chair should be for them. It cannot be that the officials called upon to repress crime and have demonstrated, as they have demonstrated to me, to be effective in so doing, should now be tried, persecuted, and arrested. Incidentally, one of the men who is under arrest discovered a drug shipment and, thanks to that, we were able to capture a Costa Rican woman at Paitilla Airport. What will happen when that official gets out of there? He will not want to repress crime anymore. [end recording]

Arosemena said he will attend a meeting with the Drug Commission during the week beginning 25 April, prior to the meeting in Bocas del Toro.

Argentina

Foreign Ministry Official Criticizes Condor Project

PY2204200793 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 20 Apr 93 p 15, 59

[Article by Andres Cisneros, former chief adviser to Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella and current secretary general and secretary of state for coordination of the Foreign Ministry]

[Text] The 7 April edition of CLARIN carries an article signed by [former Defense Minister] Horacio Jaunarena under the title "The Condor Project Refuses to Die." In the introduction, the article states that the Foreign Ministry was invited to participate in the debate "but Di Tella's chief of staff declined." I, Cisneros, am no longer Di Tella's chief of staff (thanks to a promotion), but as the invitation was addressed to me and it is believed that I can contribute useful pointers to this important national debate, I submit the following.

Before I start I would like to state that the Condor project was never a technological space project without strategic and political intent; it was the development of a strategic military weapon of mass destruction. That is why the current government eliminated the Condor project: Argentina does not want to possess or manufacture weapons of mass destruction. Nuclear, bacteriological, chemical, and long-range missiles are not the strategic instruments of a foreign policy that intends to definitely insert Argentina within a community of advanced nations that unanimously reject the manufacture and dissemination of these lethal monstrosities. It is not the way Argentina wants to be viewed by the world.

It is not a question of a "policy of automatic alignment with the United States" as maintained by Jaunarena. I believe common sense is all that is needed to say no to converting the country into a warehouse of atomic bombs, poison gases, and missiles for mass destruction. The refusal to develop and disseminate long-range missiles is the main strategic concern of all advanced countries, beginning with the EC and Japan. A true perception of international reality is an undeniable condition for building a country. The Condor project emerged from the same foreign policy that lead us to a war with Great Britain, to the invasion of Chilean territory in 1978, and to considering Brazil as the main hypothesis for a conflict.

For today's Argentina, which implements a very different foreign policy, it is obvious that the development of a lethal weapon would have been a very serious destabilizing international factor, and was not the appropriate way to continue.

Since its inception, the Condor project was seen as a political and conceptual blunder which implied that the foreign policy was subordinate to the military, and not the contrary. This government reassumed the task of putting things back in their logical position by subordinating the military to the political sector, as it should be.

It is not true that the cancellation of the Condor project implies a loss of advanced technology for the peaceful exploration of space. If the costly Condor project generated advanced technology, as has been affirmed, no evidence of this has ever been found. If Dr. Jaunarena, the last defense minister of the previous democratic government, knows the location of the files that contain these technological discoveries it would be useful if he made this known to the country, the legitimate owner of the knowledge.

The National Commission for Space Activities (CONAE), which was created within the civilian sector by this government, is the only organization that is legally competent to use and implement this information of which, regrettably, there is no evidence yet.

It has always been said that the desire to explore space was used to favor the Condor project, yet all the time a long-range rocket was being developed instead of a peaceful space launch vehicle. Perhaps this happened because the decisions were not fully made in Argentina. Could it be that Argentina's foreign partners were less interested in "peaceful development" and more interested in a military weapon to be used in serious conflict? This is a point of extreme importance that has never been explained and which could possibly be clarified by Dr. Jaunarena, who is an honest man.

It must be determined whether the Condor was an autonomous project developed exclusively by Argentines. Is it true that foreign engineers, technicians, equipment, plans, and technology entered the country to mount and administrate the final stage of this project that is foreign to national interests? On the subject of "automatic alignments," it would be interesting to reflect on respect for Argentine sovereignty within this obscure episode.

All known facts indicate that the Condor project was a military undertaking that sought to manufacture a weapon of mass destruction—a long-range missile—with strictly warlike ends. To the present time it has not been confirmed that the country achieved any technological advance; on the contrary, it made the country look suspicious in the eyes of the international community. Of course the Condor project can be defended. To do so, however, one has to start with the truth: It was a military project begun under a military regime and continued under a civilian government for exclusively military ends.

The Condor never flew and its development was discontinued by Raul Alfonsin's government when Jaunarena was defense minister. When the Justicialist government assumed power, there were just bits and pieces (all that remained in the country) collecting dust in the Falda del Carmen warehouses. There was no activity and no

technicians. In other words, the project had suffered the same fate—but not by chance—as the manufacture of tanks and submarines.

The only involvement of this government was to end a project that was harmful for the country's strategic and international interests. A project that Jaunarena, when he was defense minister, stopped pushing for the same reasons.

This government has become involved in peaceful space activities. It created the CONAE, an entirely civilian organization that depends directly on the presidency with congressional control of its activities and budget.

Far from providing Argentina with a "higher and sophisticated level of knowledge"—as asserted by Jaunarena—the Condor project provoked almost total international isolation and a blocking of Argentina's access to advanced technology.

This situation seriously reduced the possibility of reequipping our Armed Forces, a situation that is only now being corrected by a decision of the Menem government to definitely discontinue this war- like project. If anyone wants to reactivate the project, it must be taken to Congress, where the entire political spectrum of Argentina is represented. In Congress a political and legal mandate can be sought to authorize the expenditure of millions of dollars on weapons of mass destruction.

And that, indeed, would be quite a debate.

Germany Lifts Technology Controls on Argentina

PY2204200393 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2055 GMT 21 Apr 93

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 April (NA)—The Argentine Foreign Ministry announced today that the German Government has crossed Argentina's name off the so-called "H list" that controls its exports of sensitive technology and is included in its foreign trade law.

The Foreign Ministry views this decision as "an important recognition of the policy on nonproliferation of nuclear or chemical weapons and missiles forwarded by the Argentine Republic."

The Foreign Ministry issued a communique this afternoon stating that "this event follows the signature of a memorandum of understanding between Argentina and the United States on the transfer of highly sensitive technology, on 12 February, and our country's adherence to the control system of missile-related technology on 11 March."

The communique also noted that Argentina was granted "full membership in the Australian group in charge of controlling chemical substances on 11 December 1992, and that it participated in the meeting held by the group of nuclear supplying countries (GPPN) on 30 March."

The Foreign Ministry communique adds that Argentina "had been included in the H list because of the concern over the Argentine development of missile projects, the lack of an institutionalized system of control of sensitive exports, and the nonratification of the Tlatelolco Treaty."

"The inclusion of our country on the H list implied that when an export authorization of material considered sensitive to Argentina is requested, a mechanism of consultation and control is immediately implemented," it added.

Through that mechanism, the German ministers of economic affairs, foreign affairs, defense, and research and technology, as well as the German intelligence services, had to express their opinion on the requested export authorization." [no begin quotation mark as received]

Joint Operations by Navy, Air Force in South Atlantic

PY2304020693 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1153 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Apr (NA)—For the third consecutive day, the Navy and the Air Force yesterday carried out joint operations in the South Atlantic "to maintain and increase the efficiency of naval control in the Exclusive Economic Zone [ZEE]."

The drill's operations center is located at the "Almirante Zar" naval aviation base in Trelew. The drill, which began on 19 April and will conclude tomorrow, is part of the Navy's and Air Force's joint training program.

The Navy officially reported that the destroyer Heroina with an Alouette helicopter aboard, Electra and Tracker patrol airplanes, Super Etendard attack airplanes, and a Sea King helicopter are participating in the operations.

The Air Force, in turn, is participating in the drill with Sky Hawk A-4C attack airplanes and a Hercules KC-130 refueling plane.

During the joint drill, flights to control maritime traffic, air patrol flights, and flights to reconnoiter and identify ships operating within the ZEE are carried out.

The drill also includes waves of air attacks against surface units and targets "of opportunity," air defense from navigating ships, and maritime search and rescue tasks. (Endall) 221153 ab/czach/dp sr212204.16 23/0204z Apr

Cable News Organization To Cover Country, Americas

PY2104172493 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 20 Apr 93 Third Section p 3

[Text] Cable Vision Noticias—Channel 6 [CVN] is the first international news organization to have its base in Argentina. It transmits 24 hours a day in Spanish and will cover the country and the American continent through Transponder 95 of the Intelsat VI satellite.

CVN America International is a news organization that carries 30-minute segments with journalists, news flashes, specialized commentaries, and direct links with the world's most important news networks. It is a new way of informing.

The segments will be anchored by Cecilia Laratro, Horacio Embon, Mabel Traberg, Silvia Martinez Cassina, Roberto Maidana, and Maria Areces; and top-level analysts such as Juan Carlos de Pablo, Bernardo Neustadt, Jorge Castro, Mariano Grondona, Dario Gasparre, Osvaldo Quiroga, Jose Ignacio Lopez, Claudio Zin, Quique Wolf, Domingo Di Nucci, and Enrique Szewach.

There also will be live transmissions from the Stock Exchange with Miguel Iribarne and Joaquin Ledesma giving their evaluations of how the exchange is reacting.

Bolivia

Government Investigating Smuggling of Arms to Yugoslavia

PY2204145693 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2207 GMT 17 Apr 93

[Text] La Paz, 17 Apr (EFE)—Bolivian Defense Minister Alberto Saenz reported today, 17 April, that the Bolivian Armed Forces are apparently involved in a smuggling operation to Yugoslavia of "Russian tanks, weapons from Portugal, and other countries."

Saenz said his ministry has opened an investigation to trace people and foreign companies that could have used the Bolivian name to sell weapons to Yugoslavia.

"We are in a process of investigating this trafficking of weapons, which is not very simple. It includes tanks from Russia, and weapons from Portugal and other countries, which we do not use in our Armed Forces," the defense minister explained.

Moreover, General Oscar Vargas, commander in chief of the Bolivian Armed Forces, told PRESENCIA that his institution "has nothing to do with that matter."

"Everything leads us to believe that this is a ring of foreign and not domestic traffickers, who have used the country and its institutions," Vargas said. He added that "this matter is being handled at the top level and is being investigated."

Recently, the Bolivian Government reported in an Information Ministry communique that a weapons smuggling operation to Yugoslavia exists and that the names of Bolivian institutions and top-ranking officials have been used.

The communique added that the Bolivian Government has "never" authorized such an operation and that the matter will be placed in the hands of the prosecutor general of the republic and of the Foreign Ministry to conduct the appropriate investigations.

Supreme Court Sentences Former President to 30 Years

PY2204152593 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0004 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] La Paz, 21 Apr (EFE)—Bolivians today received with great joy the 30-year jail sentence—the longest term contemplated by the Penal Code—that the Supreme Court handed down against former "de facto" President Luis Garcia Meza. The sentence was read during a historic Supreme Court session in Sucre.

The highest court handed down its decision against Meza and those who cooperated with him at the end of four hours of summary readings that included the analysis of more than 12,000 pages of documents accumulated during the 7-year trial.

The sentences for each one of the eight groups of crimes committed by Garcia Meza—who ruled Bolivia from July 1980 to August 1981—totaled 220 years in jail and a fine of 3,500 work- days [based on the minimum salary].

According to Bolivian laws, however, the maximum penalty that can be applied against an individual is 30 years in jail without parole.

Garcia Meza disappeared at the beginning of 1989. The former president decided to go into hiding when Congress broadened the political trial against him to include charges of stealing Ernesto "Che" Guevara's and Harry "Pompo" Villegas' guerrilla campaign diaries.

Former Army Colonel Luis Arce Gomez, interior minister during Garcia Meza's regime, was also sentenced to 30 years in jail without parole.

The Supreme Court has stressed the need to present an extradition petition before the U.S. Government—Arce Gomez is serving a sentence in the United States for drug trafficking—in order to bring him back to Bolivia to serve his sentence at the Chonchocoro maximum security prison, in La Paz Department.

General Armando Reyes Villa, former Armed Forces commander in chief and former Bolivian ambassador to Spain, was sentenced to 2 years in jail. Reyes will serve his sentence at a Cochabamba prison.

Except for former Agriculture Minister Julio Molina, former Planning Minister Oscar Larrain, and former Foreign Minister Javier Cerruto—who received 6-year prison terms—all members of Garcia Meza's cabinet will serve 2-year jail sentences at the San Pedro de La Paz prison.

All those found guilty will have to pay back economic losses and trial expenses. The court froze all their assets to ensure they pay these expenses.

Paramilitary force members included in this political trial received sentences of 30 years and 20 years in jail for the crimes of sedition, murder, and criminal association.

Only three citizens were acquitted out of nearly 50 individuals on trial.

In La Paz people blew their horns and threw firecrackers shortly after the sentence was made public to greet the end of the trial and of impunity in this small Andean nation.

In the past Garcia Meza's government was linked to drug trafficking and a "black" international terrorist network headed by the Italian neo-fascist Stefano delle Chiaie and Germans Klaus "Barbie" Altman and Joaquin Fiebelkorn, among others.

Garcia Meza attended his trial between 1986 and 1989 to present a defense against nearly 50 charges levied against him that included sedition, murder, and economic crimes against the state, but decided to go into hiding when Congress added other charges for stealing the diaries of guerrillas "Che" Guevara and "Pombo" Villegas.

The diaries were being kept by the Bolivian Army as a war trophy when they inexplicably appeared at an auction in London. They were later returned to Bolivia.

Supreme Court Ruling Viewed

PY2304000293 La Paz Television Nacional Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Speakers identified by screen captions]

[Text] We will now hear some opinions on the sentence handed down by the Supreme Court of Justice against [former de facto President Luis] Garcia Meza and his aides.

[Begin recording] [Labor Minister Eusebio Gironda] This sentence is symbolic. It is a tribute to the liberty and democracy advocated by the Bolivian people. I believe it represents a precedent of paramount importance because those who do not support the democratic system in our country will have to seriously ponder before taking any action. As of today, nothing will remain unpunished and no one will be able to curtail the citizenry's liberties.

The Bolivian people want freedom and democracy to prevail. Our people chose this path 10 years ago. And 10 years of democracy and liberty in Bolivia already represents a true success. This is a worthy precedent because, until recently, a military coup was usually staged every year or two.

We Bolivians now want freedom and democracy to prevail. This is the path we have chosen.

[COB, Bolivian Labor Federation, leader Luis Gonzales] This sentence has deeply touched our hearts. Many of us have shed tears because this is what we have been pursuing, what we have been seeking for more than seven years. The COB has played a leading role in Luis Garcia Meza's trial.

Undoubtedly, this has delighted the Bolivian people. This sentence has made all workers and the Bolivian people rejoice because we believe it has vindicated dignity, liberty, and press freedom. It also represents a warning against rekindling those dark days of the 1980 dictatorship.

[CSUTCB, General Trade Union Confederation of Peasants Workers of Bolivia, leader Ricardo Montevilla] The CSUTCB thanks and asks the judge who passed the judgment to report it to the public opinion. The CSUTCB also thanks and congratulates Dr. Juan del Granado for his work and for passing the judgment that was handed down yesterday.

We hope the government will express its political will. Talking about political will, there should be a reward for the people who report the whereabouts of Garcia Meza. [end recording]

Brazil

Presidential, Republican Systems Lead in Plebescite

PY2204144093 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] Almost half of the electorate said no to the plebiscite held yesterday. According to a poll conducted by IBOPE [Brazilian Public Opinion and Statistics Institute], about 40 million electors did not vote, that is, their votes were either null or blank.

The exit poll results confirm the predictions of polls: victory of the republican system, with 68 percent of the votes and the presidential system with 57 percent. Only 12 percent of the electorate voted for a monarchy system and 25 percent voted for a parliamentary system. The IBOPE poll questioned 13,000 electors in all regions of the country.

The vote count in Sao Paulo, the largest electorate college in the country with almost 20 million voters, should conclude this afternoon. According to the TRE [Regional Electoral Board], almost 40,000 people are working on the vote count, in addition to 248,000 additional helpers.

The result of the vote count in Parana State will also be disclosed today. In Mato Grosso do Sul and in Tocantin states the results will be disclosed on 24 April. The main problems in those states are the distances between some cities and their capitals.

The Superior Electoral Court spent the early hours of today receiving information on the vote count throughout the country. Reporter Renata Verissimo reports from the Superior Electoral Court on the latest vote count:

[Begin recording] Ten states have not yet begun the vote count. Most of them are in the northern region. With the exception of Acre and Amazonas, the other states have

not yet begun a vote count. The vote count will begin at 0800 in Rio de Janeiro. In Santa Catarina the vote count has concluded; the presidential system won with 55.77 percent followed by the parliamentary system with 23.9 percent. The republican systen also won with 65.3 percent and the monarchy system received 11.05 percent of the vote. Parana will be the next state to finish the vote count, where so far 97.89 percent of the votes have been counted. Of all the other states that already are counting votes, Pernanbuco is quite behind with only 8.34 percent of the votes counted. The vote count in the entire country so far is 33.65 percent. The partial results are: Parliamentary system with 27.54 percent; presidential system is winning with 53.45 percent; blank votes are 4.44 percent and null votes are 24.58 percent. Regarding the type of government, monarchy has 10.51 percent and the republican system is winning with 66.95 percent; blank votes are 9.25 percent and null votes 14.17 percent. [end recording]

President Calls For Withdrawal of Cabinet Resignations

PY2304005693 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Report by Alexandre Garcia in Brasilia—live]

[Text] The president of the Republic is now meeting with Finance Minister Eliseu Resende, Foreign Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso, Justice Minister Mauricio Correa, Civilian Household Chief Hargreaves, and the attorney general. They are studying the legal aspects and making decisions about the measures to be announced next Saturday. The president will announce on Saturday that the fundamental basis of his program is the resumption of growth as the solution to the great social problems.

The finance minister will deliver a speech explaining the government accounts. He will demonstrate that it is possible to accomplish that which has been announced as long as there is a good administration and strict control of expenses. If anyone wants to spend more money on one project he will have to cut expenses somewhere else. The plan to curb inflation foresees the reduction of the internal public debt. This means more privatizations. The privatization program will be extended and accelerated.

Just a short while ago, President Itamar Franco asked Mines and Energy Minister Paulino Cicero to withdraw the resignation letters of the other ministers. A short while ago the president said that in face of the results of the plebiscite it is clear that the people want a presidential government system, and for this reason he will evaluate the political scene and reevaluate his government, that is, his cabinet.

Assures No 'Shock Measures'

PY2304010293 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] The government is making the last arrangements for the upcoming cabinet meeting. The measures to be announced by President Itamar Franco are almost ready.

The government will not discuss the elimination of three zeros from the cruzeiro during the cabinet meeting scheduled for Saturday.

Presidential spokesman Francisco Baker said President Franco believes this issue should be solved through draft bills and discussed by Congress.

Baker also disclosed that the cabinet meeting will be held between 1000 and noon and the media will be allowed to attend. Baker said the meeting will be restricted to the reading, in the form of a speech, of a document listing the government's goals by either President Franco or Finance Minister Eliseu Resende.

Francisco Baker added that the government does not intend to implement radical changes and added that there are no indications in that direction.

According to the spokesman, Itamar wants to assure the people that there will be no shock measures.

Justice Minister Discusses Possible Ministerial Changes

PY2004155893 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 17 Apr 93 p 3

[Interview with Justice Minister Mauricio Correa by unidentified O GLOBO report in Brasilia on 16 April]

[Text] Brasilia—Justice Minister Mauricio Correa admitted yesterday that changes may occur in the ministry after the plebiscite. He confirmed that the tense conversation he held with President Itamar Franco was related to the draft law to pay indemnization to the relatives of missing political prisoners.

[O GLOBO] Will there be changes in the ministry in the next few days to make a political accommodation after the result of the plebiscite?

[Correa] We do not know what the correlation of forces in Congress will be after 21 April, taking into account that presidential candidacies already have been prematurely announced. The government has to work with the necessary congressional support. According to my own evaluation, there is no party in Congress entirely against the government. There are groups within parties that stubbornly fight against the government.

[O GLOBO] Could a ministerial change occur then?

[Correa] Let us assume that a determined political party is absolutely against the government and a minister is compelled to leave. Obviously the president will have to appoint another minister to replace him.

[O GLOBO] What really happened between you and the president on 14 April upon leaving Planalto Palace?

[Correa] Absolutely nothing. Some kind of battle was created over it. There was no misunderstanding. I have several projects here in the Justice Ministry under study, including one on human rights. The amnesty approved by the Congress did away with any dispute between members of the military and those who took part in the armed struggle, therefore, no inquiries can be made by any of the parties. What happens is that there is still some injustice that needs and deserves adequate treatment. There is nothing else.

[O GLOBO] Why so much secrecy?

[Correa] This is a problem that deserves meditation and reflection, and naturally the president only wants to decide after making his own judgment.

Iranian Agriculture Minister Visits; Agreement Signed

LD2204093293 Tehran IRNA in English 0543 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] Tehran, April 22, IRNA—Iran and Brazil agreed to establish scientific relations between their relevant institutions and exchange agriculture experts. The agreement was reached in Wednesday's meeting of the visiting Iranian Agriculture Minister 'Isa Kalantari and his Brazilian counterpart Lazaro Barbosa.

Brazilian companies are involved with a number of development projects in Iran including Karoun-3 dam and irrigation project and sugar cane development project in Khuzestan Province.

Kalantari also conferred with the Brazilian Minister of Foreign Affairs Fernando Henrique Cardoso and with the President of the Chamber of Deputies Inocencio de Oliveria on mutual relations between the two countries.

Chile

Preparations Under Way for Aylwin's Visit to Russia

PY2204202093 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Relay by German Gamonal from Moscow]

[Excerpts] The staffers of the Chilean Embassy in Moscow are preparing the details of President Patricio Aylwin's upcoming visit to Russia.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] What about president Aylwin's upcoming visit?

[Jorge Guzman, Chilean General Consul in Moscow] The embassy—directed by our ambassador—is preparing for the president's visit, which is scheduled to begin on the afternoon of 2 June. The president is scheduled to leave Moscow on the evening of 4 June. We are in constant contact with Russian Foreign Ministry officials, the presidency, President Yeltsin's advisers, Russian Parliament members, Council of Ministers' members, etc. to arrange all the details.

[Reporter] Mr. Consul, what are the objectives of Aylwin's visit? Are they economic or political? What is the objective?

[Guzman] I would say there are two major aspects in connection with President Aylwin's visit. First, to promote political ties. The Russian Government is a new government that we have supported and that we appreciate. We are very closely following the democratization process under way in this country, just as Russia is very carefully watching the Chilean process. I would not say the Chilean process is an example for them, but they always take it into account. Chile's example is always mentioned in parliamentary debates and statements by top Russian officials.

Consequently, from this viewpoint, we can say that the president will come to complete a project that began in March 1990, when relations were reestablished. [end recording] [passage omitted]

The Chilean Embassy's main concern is the departure in a few hours of a Chilean Air Force plane—the second to come to Russia in more than 20 years—that will take back to Chile some 80 Chileans who were living in the former USSR. They are former scholarship students, workers, and some professionals.

This flight is being made with the support of the United Nations, the Foreign Ministry, and the Office for the Return of Exiles, which is directed by Jaime Esponda, who talked with the Chileans, who are now staying at (Ismailovo) Hotel, the world's largest hotel, from which we released this relay for Radio Chilena listeners. [passage omitted]

Colombia

General on Venezuelan Aid for Counterguerrilla Operations

PA2204221593 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Report by Arderis Lopez]

[Text] Cucuta—The public order situation is delicate on the border region of Banco de Arena, jurisdiction of Tibu municipality, the high military command of the region has confirmed. General Agustin Ardila Uribe, commander of the 2d Mobile Brigade, said clashes have resulted in the deaths of 10 rebels, one Army officer, and four soldiers. The Colombian Army officer emphasized the cooperation of the Venezuelan Army in conducting counterguerrilla military operations.

[Begin Ardila recording] We coordinated with Colonel Rubio, Venezuelan Army commander, when we reached

the Banco de Arena corregimiento. They began operations with helicopters and also began search and reconnaissance operations in the border region. [end recording]

Paraguay

Presidential Hopeful Caballero Vargas Meets Pope

PY2204221893 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 22 Apr 93 p 3

[Excerpts] In a telephone call from the Holy See, Guillermo Caballero Vargas outlined the details of his meeting with the Holy Father. He said that the meeting was held at 1115 on 21 April after the general audience the pope holds every Wednesday for foreigners who arrive in St. Peter's Plaza.

The presidential hopeful said the meeting was very emotional and that Maria Victoria Brusquetti, his vice presidential hopeful, and Ivonne Bosch de Caballero Vargas also participated in the meeting. Media members accredited to the Vatican were present. [passage omitted]

"During one part of the meeting," Caballero Vargas continued, "he asked me how things were in Paraguay. I told him we were facing imminent elections on 9 May. The pope knew about this. He smiled and said to me: 'And will they be democratic elections?' I told him that this was the reason for my visit. I told him we were seeking the solidarity of the international community as a whole for the process the country is experiencing."

"I also told him," he said, "that the Paraguayan Church is contributing a lot to this process we are experiencing, but that we hoped for the Holy Father's support in the decisive instances that are being experienced by Paraguay, and that in this respect we would like, through his urging, the support of the church as a whole. In view of this, the Holy Father told me that he hopes we will have democratic elections."

"The pope also told me the Paraguayan Episcopal Conference has not only a commitment to the country in the transition period, but it also counts on all his support to initiate the necessary actions as soon as possible in order to cooperate in the election process," the presidential hopeful said. [passage omitted]

At the end of his meeting with the pope, Caballero Vargas held a series of other meetings. The most important one was with the Vatican's interim justice and peace minister, a very important Vatican department that oversees the implementation of human rights throughout the world. "I explained to Monsignor Mejia the need for counting on the support of international observers for our elections. He reiterated the idea that the Episcopal Conference has all the Vatican's support to take action when and were it is deemed necessary to ensure a clean and peaceful transition to democracy," Caballero Vargas explained. [passage omitted]

National Encounter Asks Bishops To Guarantee Elections

PY2304024793 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 22 Apr 93 p 5

[Text] National Encounter [EN] campaign manager Victor Gonzalez reported that the political coalition is holding a number of talks with Paraguayan church representatives so the latter will guarantee honesty in the 9 May elections.

Gonzalez explained: "The EN has been holding a number of talks with Paraguayan church representatives, seeking the best support, the best safeguards possible for this transition process that we Paraguayans are developing with some problems. We believe the church has a lot to contribute from the viewpoint of its moral influence over all citizens and, especially, the authorities."

Gonzalez also noted: "To such an extent that in their most recent homilies, under various circumstances involving them, the bishops have been asking the authorities to make an effort to allow this process to develop as honestly as possible. This has been so to the point that a few days ago the bishops held a meeting with the president of the Republic, asking the same thing. And on 20 April the bishops met the presidential hopefuls."

The EN leader explained that since [EN presidential candidate Guillermo] Caballero Vargas had to travel to Rome, he held a meeting with Bishops Conference representatives on 19 April.

Gonzalez said: "On that occasion, I asked them for all the support the church can give so this process will develop as honestly as all us citizens are expecting."

Gonzalez then explained: "Our plan is that the church will ultimately become a permanent observer of the electoral process. We also have a number of proposals that we are raising for it. In our proposals, we are asking the church to safeguard the electoral documents—and even the voters lists—and all the materials produced by the electoral process. This method already has been implemented in other countries like Panama, for example."

Candidate Wasmosy Meets Argentine, Uruguayan Presidents

PY2204211593 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 22 Apr 93 p 11

[Excerpt] Colorado Party presidential hopeful Juan Carlos Wasmosy yesterday at 1430 met with Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle Herrera, who was accompanied by members of his ministerial cabinet. They discussed Mercosur [Common Market of the South] and the aspirations of the region's countries on integration.

They also discussed the strategies that, as less-developed countries, they must adopt to obtain comparative advantages to strengthen the industrial development of the two

countries, according to a telephone conversation with Wasmosy from Buenos Aires after a number of meetings yesterday.

The Colorado Party candidate also met with Argentine President Carlos Saul Menem. They discussed issues resulting from the Pilcomayo River's diversion, when the goodwill of the Argentine Government to solve the conflict became evident.

They also reviewed several points related to other undertakings Paraguay and Argentina are carrying out now and thinking of carrying out in the future, such as Yacyreta, the gas pipeline that will transport Argentine gas produced in Formosa through Paraguayan territory to Brazil, serving all of Paraguay, particularly the most populated towns, Wasmosy explained. [passage omitted]

PLRA Deputies Accuse Electoral Board Members of Fraud

PY2204200593 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 22 Apr 93 p 4

[Excerpt] Just 17 days before the general elections, Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA] representatives accused the Central Electoral Board (JEC) of being involved in a fraud prepared to benefit the Colorado Party in the 9 May elections. Deputy Francisco Jose de Vargas stated yesterday that they will request the arrest of JEC President Jose Luis Ibarra Llano, who categorically denied the accusations.

The PLRA candidates for deputies yesterday went to the JEC to demand an explanation about the supposed irregularities in preparing the electoral list, which they consider a "generalized, premeditated, and planned fraud," as reported by Hermes Rafael Saguier.

According to the accusations, the irregularities affect 52 percent of the PLRA members in the capital, some 17,000 citizens who as a result will have difficulties in finding the places where they are supposed to vote on 9 May.

De Vargas demanded copies of the civic registration to be used in the elections in order to thoroughly study them, and added that if his request is not fully satisfied, he will ask for the arrest of Ibarra Llano and other JEC members and employees.

"We are going to call the people to gather in front of this institution, and I can firmly tell you we are going to make justice. With the evidence we have at hand we are going to demonstrate that these people here are making fun of the people's will. They will have to kill us on the street, they will have to bring military forces here to prevent us from burning all this, and I believe that no military officer wants to murder Dr. Saguier and me to defend a few corrupt individuals," he said.

However, Ibarra Llano denied any fraud attempt and said the change in voting places was due in many cases to the double registration of the involved individuals, or as a result of a natural increase in the number of voters.

The JEC president and active Colorado Party member said he is willing to clear all complaints. [passage omitted]

Peru

Fujimori Delivers 'Message to Nation'

PA2304021793 Lima Radio and Television Networks in Spanish 0102 GMT 23 Apr 93

[Message to the nation by President Alberto Fujimori in Lima on 22 April—live or recorded]

[Text] Good evening fellow citizens. On 23 April it will be 1,000 days since, following the people's mandate, I took office. This time has been shared with you in the historic task of rebuilding the country. In the face of this task, which still has not ended, the difficulties or setbacks have been slight. With a view toward the future, which is our children's future, you and I have bravely sacrificed our natural and fair expectations [expectativas].

In these 1,000 days the Peruvian people and their government are managing to convert a bankrupt country, where authority did not exist, to a country full of possibilities for everyone. That is why when Peru is described by international organizations as a model country, referring to the recovery of the economy, and when Peru is considered the world's second most valuable stock market country, each of us must interpret these as positive signals that we are emerging from the crisis.

We have advanced enormously on all fronts, especially in pacification. I stress this front because the country's definite economic recovery depends on the Peruvian Government's triumph over terrorism. There is, as all of us have been able to see, a very close relationship between the significant achievement in pacification and important investments. The biggest investments during the past two decades have been made this past year.

This is completely logical because big foreign investors are not going to invest in a country that does not have security for people and capital. We all know that the flow of foreign investments means supplying capital and technology, which means development for our country. Development and economic growth are closely associated with employment and well-being for Peruvians.

Thus there is a direct relationship between peace and development. We need to end this war that is still bleeding Peru, and we need to consolidate everything that has been gained up to now with the effort and sacrifice of Peruvians. It is thus in everyone's interest to wipe out the Shining Path and the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement, which represent poverty, so we can build a new fatherland.

The government has clearly outlined the rules of the game to boost the country's pacification. This involves a strategy in which intelligent work and work with the people come first. The Peruvian Armed Forces and the National Police serve under these rules.

Human rights violations, obviously, are not part of government policy and, thus, it is not the policy of our security forces either. The defense and safeguard of basic rights entails a very big responsibility. We have assumed this responsibility, as can be seen by the initiation of the dialogue with the National Human Rights Coordinator.

Our war is against terrorism and poverty. It is the only war being fought by Peru and Peruvians. It is senseless for wars to break out in a commission or among government and private institutions. Those meetings should prompt frank and altruistic dialogue. Perhaps, the people who attend those meetings with such negative attitudes would think it over if they knew the harm they could cause due to our delicate situation.

The country knows that the Armed Forces and the National Police are rendering a high quota of sacrifice in the struggle against terrorism. Not only do they combat a perverse and astute enemy in dangerous conditions, but they have already paid a high cost in human lives. We have to give them national recognition for their struggle against Peru's main enemy: terrorism. A struggle which, I repeat, is being waged in very unfavorable conditions.

For the first time, however, we can say that there will be peace in Peru thanks to the Armed Forces, the National Police, and the people's support. Peace in Peru has been attained, in many cases, with the death of uniformed and civilian men. Let the memory of those Peruvians inspire reverent respect in us so we can continue to work for national pacification.

We all understand and respect state institutions and branches. We, undoubtedly, admit that the Constituent Democratic Congress has the legitimate right to investigate. It has this right as an autonomous branch within a system of balance of powers and a participative democracy. As the president of the Republic, I guarantee this right. I, thus, ratify the commitment made in the Bahamas to the people of Peru, with the international community as my witness, to give the Republic a constituent legislative branch that can investigate in its own right.

It is natural for differences between people and institutions to arise in a democratization process. At the end, however, we must unite efforts to surmount our problems. We must not attack ourselves verbally or maintain attitudes that prompt strife, which will only benefit Peru's big enemy: terrorism. Differences in a civilized society require that mutual respect be upheld. This is a basic premise we must all accept.

Due to its seriousness and importance, the discussion of topics related to the pacification process should be conducted with composure. The country requires equanimity. It is no time to generate tensions that will only damage the country, which can and should be avoided. The differences between the political and military powers are completely overcome. We currently have a political leadership that is not traditional and that has called all Peruvians—civilian and military—to a large task: our national reconstruction.

Peru gave itself a new opportunity to relearn democracy—an opportunity to overcome defects. The whole country, particularly the poorest sector of Peru, has enormous faith in Peru's recovery. This is what I see among our youth, in the neighborhoods, and in the countryside. I believe no one has the right to disregard such expectations, but instead we all have the obligation to make our small contribution to the construction of a firm democracy formed by institutions that will spearhead the development and progress of the true nation.

During these 1,000 days of the struggle for a different Peru, shared by all Peruvians of good faith, the people have gained awareness. Now the people willingly, without any type of intermediary manipulation, support a national reconstruction program that has shown specific results, such as the decreasing trend in terrorism and the financial and economic reentry of Peru into the international credit organizations. Thus, 1,000 days have gone by for a government that is marching with its people toward our only destiny: Peru. Thank you, and good night.

Defense Minister Says Military Respectful of State Powers

PA2304033593 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 23 Apr 93

[Text] The Armed Forces are respectful of the powers of state and are subordinate to constitutional order, Defense Minister General Victor Malca Villanueva announced during a news conference held at the Democratic Constituent Congress [CCD].

Following a one-hour meeting held at the office of the president of the Republic at Government Palace, CCD President Jaime Yoshiyama and Defense Minister Gen. Malca Villanueva went to the CCD building. After a 15-minute meeting, the two officials called for a news conference, where they tried to explain the events that have taken place in the last 48 hours following Gen. Hermoza Rios' meeting with the CCD Human Rights Commission.

[Begin recording] [Yoshiyama] There is no problem between the Armed Forces or the Army and the CCD. There is a misunderstanding between the general commander and some congressmen.

[Malca] The Armed Forces are respectful of the powers of the state and particularly the sovereignty and independence of the CCD. In addition, the Armed Forces are subordinate to the constitutional order, [repeats himself]

subordinate to the constitutional order, as the president of the Republic has said on several occasions.

To conclude, I want to announce to you that I have told the CCD president that I am ready whenever necessary to come here and answer questions by the congressmen regarding Gen. Hermoza Rios' meeting. [end recording]

At the end of the news conference, neither Yoshiyama nor Malca answered any questions by reporters.

Army Holds 22 Apr Ceremony in Support of Hermoza

PA2304034693 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 23 Apr 93

[Text] On the morning of 22 April there was another unusual movement of military troops in various parts of the capital, which made the people nervous. The troops were being moved, however, to Fort Rimac, where the high command reiterated their support of General Nicolas de Bari Hermoza Rios, commander of the Armed Forces Joint Command.

The ceremony was preceded by a large movement of tanks, troop carriers, and other vehicles along the streets of Lima, causing huge traffic jams when they departed Fort Rimac. According to Army sources, the ceremony was scheduled to be held in Campo de Marte, but the ceremony was finally held at Fort General Rafael Hoyos Rubio in Rimac. The ceremony consisted of about 100 tanks, command cars, and other vehicles positioned along the main avenue to welcome Gen. Nicolas de Bari Hermoza Rios, with the traditional salute.

The keynote speaker was Gen. Roberto Saldana Vasquez, Army chief of staff, who said this was a spontaneous ceremony to show support for the Army and its commander, Gen. Nicolas de Bari Hermoza Rios. He said the presence of high-ranking officers and noncommissioned officers meant a firm rejection of the campaign against the Army. He also reiterated their respect for the branches of government.

[Begin Saldana recording] The respect stemming from our convictions and discipline should not be misinterpreted. Some congressmen, taking advantage of their privileges, are seeking to tarnish the image and prestige of our institution to the detriment of the nation's peace efforts, a basic requirement for the construction of this authentic democracy we all want.

Commander, we do not deserve to be insulted, to be discredited, or to be attacked for our unselfish efforts and for the many lives sacrificed to save the fatherland. [end recording]

A minute of silence was observed for Army members killed in combat against subversion.

Finally the Army anthem was sung and honors were paid to Gen. Nicolas de Bari Hermoza Rios.

Army Chief of Staff Saldana Rejects Accusations

PA2204210493 Paris AFP in Spanish 1851 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] Lima, 22 Apr (AFP)—General Roberto Saldana Vasquez, Peruvian Army chief of staff, on 22 April said, upon rejecting parliamentary accusations implicating the Army in a killing, that all Peruvians "must share the moral obligation of contributing to the total defeat of terrorism." Gen. Saldana said this during a military ceremony at the Armored Division Headquarters near downtown Lima to ratify the Army's support for its commander, General Nicolas De Bari Hermoza Rios, in the crisis unleashed by the parliamentary opposition this week and to pay tribute to those who have fallen in the struggle to bring peace to the nation.

Unusual demonstrations with a parade of approximately 50 tanks and the attendance of all chiefs of the military regions and fronts where Shining Path and the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement are fought characterized the ceremony.

A similar ceremony was held on 21 April by the chiefs of the Air Force, Navy, an Army to support Gen. Hermoza, who is also the chairman of the Armed Forces Joint Command.

The crisis, which heightened tensions among the population given the military show of force on 21 and 22 April, was caused by a report by leftist legislator Henry Pease and other opposition lawmakers, who accused the Army of having executed nine students and one professor in a 1992 incursion into La Cantuta University, 30 km east of Lima.

The Peruvian military leadership strongly rejected the accusation, arguing that now a policy of nonviolation of human rights is practiced and the investigation of the 10 disappearances has not yet been completed.

Gen. Saldana asserted: "Our presence here also signifies our strongest opposition to the campaign orchestrated against the Army, echoing fabricated documents and using anonymity without thinking that with this attitude they affect not only the image of security institutions but also endanger the safety of families of institution members before the terrorist murderers."

"The forces responsible for maintaining order, particularly the Peruvian Army, reiterate that all our actions are always conducted within the framework of respect for state branches," the Army chief of staff stated.

He explained, however, that the aforementioned fact "must not be misinterpreted and prompt some congressmen, taking advantage of their attributions, to try to damage the image and prestige of our institution. That would go against the much desired national pacification, a basic requirement for the building of the authentic democracy we all desire."

Gen. Saldana, after alluding to hundreds of men in uniform fallen in the struggle against Shining Path since 1980 and asking for a minute of silence to honor those fallen in combat, declared that "we do not deserve to be insulted (...), nor do we deserve to be treated this way after we have given all unselfishly and sacrificed so many lives to save the fatherland."

Counterterrorism Directorate Chief To Appear Before CCD

PA2304133993 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Apr 93

[Text] The chief of the National Counterterrorism Directorate [Dincote] will appear on 27 April before the Democratic Constituent Congress [CCD] commission investigating the case of the persons who disappeared from Cantuta. The commission will meet to determine who is responsible in this case.

Commission President Roger Caceres confirmed that the meeting would be held and said he will issue a ruling within two weeks.

[Begin recording] [unidentified reporter] Will the Army commander general again be called before the commission you head?

[Caceres] It would be premature to say; we will make a decision about that. We are summoning other individuals, some in uniforms, others not, and will ask them to tell us what they know about the case we are investigating.

[Reporter] Who has been summoned?

[Caceres] I cannot tell you their names because I think that would be rather daring. They might not come if they know they are being summoned.

[Reporter] Are they military personnel or civilians?

[Caceres] Some are civilians and others are military personnel. I believe it is better to be reticent for the time being.

I can tell you, however, that we have requested the presence of the Dincote chief on 27 April at 1730. Because Dincote is such an important organization that is informed about everything regarding the strategy used to fight violence, we believe the Dincote chief might be able to provide us with information that could turn out to be very important for a better understanding of the facts.

[Reporter] Will you ask the Dincote chief for information about a possible connection between Professor Hugo Munoz and Shining Path?

[Caceres] We will not ask him for something specific. We could ask him not only about that but also about many other things, which we will, in fact, do. He could give us a number of answers about things that we believe are very important for a better understanding of the facts. [end recording]

Uruguay

Lacalle Criticizes EC Subsidy Policy

PY2304023893 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1747 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Text] Montevideo, 22 Apr (EFE)—Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle, who will travel to the EC next week, said today that the EC's subsidy policy "will not have a happy ending."

Lacalle asserted: "The EC is one of the most important economic centers in the world; Uruguay shares a favorable commercial relationship and several joint projects with the EC but this does not prevent us from being frank in our dialogue."

Lacalle made this statement during a meeting with correspondents from international press agencies accredited in Montevideo.

The president said: "I believe the EC's subsidy policy for agriculture is wrong and will not have a happy ending."

Lacalle added: "This contribution has a political purpose and I do not intend to meddle in European politics, but it is obvious that sooner or later EC residents will wonder why their taxes are being used to subsidize German, French, etc., farmers when they can buy the same products at lower prices from Ibero-American countries."

The Uruguayan president said: "The agricultural countries do not demand aid but rather opportunities."

Lacalle then voiced what he called "thinking aloud, because the idea that was proposed some time ago, may initially sound rather outrageous, that is, that Europe replace its agricultural plantations with forestry plantations, which they need badly."

Europe could thus buy, "even saving money, Ibero-American agricultural products, something that would be very difficult but would greatly improve living conditions in Europe as well as in our countries."

Lacalle, who is scheduled to arrive in Brussels on 27 April, will be accompanied by the members of his economic team, that is, by Economy and Finance Minister Ignacio de Posadas; Industry, Energy, and Mining Minister Eduardo Ache; and Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries Minister Pedro Saravia.

The ministers will discuss with EC officials and businessmen projects for Uruguay's industrial reconversion, the development of rural areas, and the creation of mixed enterprises and services Uruguay can provide as an opening to the Common Market of the South (Mercosur) formed by Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay.

Lacalle will be received during a special audience by King Baudouin I, European Parliament President Egon Klepch, EC President Jacques Delors, and Spaniard Manuel Marin, commissioner for Latin American affairs.